

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DURBAN 00134 240302Z

64

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-04 OES-06

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /045 W

----- 089826

R 231325Z APR 76

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2152

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EWWT, SF, MZ

SUBJ: DURBAN RECEIVING CARGO PREVIOUSLY EXPORTED VIA
MOZAMBIQUE

REF: DURBAN 0090

1. DURBAN PORT DIRECTOR (BEN LOMBARD) CONFIRMED TO DURBAN PRESS APRIL 22 THAT CARGO PREVIOUSLY DESTINED FOR MOZAMBIQUE PORTS HAS BEGUN ARRIVING IN DURBAN. LOMBARD STRESSED THAT ALTHOUGH CARGO WAS ONLY BEING RE-ROUTED ON A LIMITED BASIS AT THIS STAGE, POSSIBILITY OF CONGESTION AT DURBAN INCREASES WITH THE DETERIORATION OF HARBOR CONDITIONS AT MAPUTO. PORT DIRECTOR DID NOT INDICATE AMOUNT OF RE-ROUTED CARGO, OR ORIGIN (SA OR RHODESIA).

2. DURBAN PRESS, CITING VARIOUS SA RAILWAY AND PARLIAMENTARY FIGURES, HAVE MADE MUCH IN RECENT WEEKS OF POTENTIAL CHAOS IN
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PAGE 02 DURBAN 00134 240302Z

DURBAN HARBOR IF MAJOR RE-ROUTING OF MOZAMBIQUE SHIPMENTS

SHOULD OCCUR. DURBAN ITSELF IS SUFFERING PERIODIC CONGESTION FROM A COMBINATION OF POOR WEATHER, RETRENCHMENT OF HARBOR STAFF OVER HOLIDAYS, AND CONTINUING PROBLEMS GETTING IMPORTERS TO CLEAR GOODS FROM DURBAN WHARFS AND SHEDS. PORT DIRECTOR HAS INSISTED CONGESTION IS TEMPORARY AND THAT SOME OVERALL EXCESS CAPACITY IN FACT EXISTS.

3. CONDITIONS AT BEIRA AND MAPUTO PORTS RECEIVE FREQUENT PRESS ATTENTION LOCALLY. MASTERS OF US FLAG SHIPS AND AGENTS OF DURBAN-BASED US SHIPPING COMPANIES SO FAR REPORT NO UNREASONABLE DELAYS IN MOZAMBIQUE PORTS, PROVIDED CARGO IS IN PORT. RAIL TRANSPORT TO PORTS COMES IN FOR EXTENSIVE CRITICISM, HOWEVER, AND ONE SHIPPING COMPANY, BANK LINE OF LONDON, HAS IMPOSED 10 PERCENT DETENTION SURCHARGE ON ALL CARGO SHIPPED FROM PORTS IN MOZAMBIQUE. THESE SOURCES PREDICT POSSIBLE DIFFICULT SITUATION BY JUNE WHEN IN THEIR OPINION, MOST PORTUGUESE PILOTS AND HARBOR TECHNICIANS WILL HAVE DEPARTED.

DECON UPON RECEIPT.
FARBER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CARGO HANDLING, PORT CONGESTION, ACCESS TO PORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Date: 17 MAY 2004
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by ElyME>
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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